

SW Michigan AMS/NWA Local Chapter

Spring Update

3.19.2011

Brandon Hoving

Intro

- The board
- The members
- 02.09.2011 meeting
- The road to becoming non-profit
- The next meeting...
- Goals for the rest of the year
- Long term goals

The Board

- President: Brandon (NWS)
- Vice President: Nathan Jeruzal (NWS)
- Secretary: Rob Dale (Ingham Reg. Med. Fac.)
- Treasurer: Bill Marino (NWS)



The Members

- 23 attendees at the February meeting
- 57 have joined our AMS/NWA Google group
- 31 have joined our Facebook group
- 9 paid dues (\$10/yr), 4 volunteered to serve
- Wide range of ages, from college to retired
- Must pay dues to officially be a member
 - Allows you to vote, plan, join leadership, win stuff



02.09.2011 Meeting



- Held at Grand Rapids Community College, in partnership with the GRCC Sustainability Council (POC: Moss Ingram)
- Rob Dale: Recap of the February 1-2 blizzard
- Nathan: Presentation on the Enbridge Oil Spill
- Membership sign-up, volunteer for committees

Non-profit stuff

- **WHY?** – Lower room rental fees; officially recognized by banks as non-profit; both the AMS and NWA are non-profit (but we aren't covered)
- Articles of Incorporation – filed with the State of Michigan (fairly straightforward)
- Federal Form 1023 – filed with the IRS to become 501(c)(3)
- \$400 fee to file with the IRS (ouch)
 - This will be postponed
 - In the meantime, we are quasi-non profit
 - We are banking with Lake Michigan Credit Union

The next meeting...

- Cascade Twp Library, April 11 6:30pm-8:00pm
- Continue to recruit members and volunteers
 - Get to know our membership
- Current weather discussion and/or analysis of recent event
- Emphasize publicity
 - [Facebook](#) and our website
- Summer forecast challenge
- Talk about an informal summer get-together

Goals for the rest of the year

- Summer social
- GR and outside of GR rotation for fall meetings a possibility (we need help with venues)
- Advance notification of meeting times and locations (at least a month)
- Spread the word through Facebook and other social media
- Help increase interest in volunteering
 - As club grows, four volunteers won't be enough
- Recruit presenters who have a vested interest in weather

Long term goals

- Partner with a university to host a professional workshop relevant to Southwest Michigan
 - Example: A daylong conference focusing on severe weather climatology over the region
- Facilitate an open-forum discussion
 - Have meteorologists from the NWS, media, private sector, and military provide a structured Q&A session that is open to the public...with a special emphasis on students, educators, and key decision makers
- File with the IRS and officially become non-profit

Questions or comments?

brandon.hoving@noaa.gov

-or-

swmi-amsnwa-exec@googlegroups.com